

REMARKS

The objections to the specification and drawings have been corrected.

Claim 1 was rejected under Section 102 based on Rustad. The office action, in paragraph 3, indicates that the controller detects changes in the bit rate transmit/receive status of the channel. It cites various language, but none of that has anything to do with the bit rate.

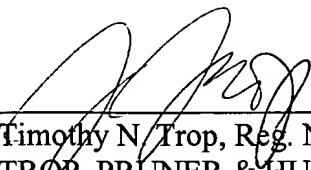
The cited language has to do with the transmit and receive status and has nothing to do with the bit rate. For example, as explained in the Summary of the Invention, the aim of the cited patent is to determine when any of the switched channels are idle and the channel's bandwidth may be reassigned. See column 4, lines 64-67. No determination is ever made concerning a bit rate change event. Therefore, reconsideration of the rejection of claim 1 is respectfully requested.

Likewise, claim 10 calls for detecting a reduced transfer rate. Again, there is no detection of any transfer rate reduction. Instead, all that is done is to determine whether a channel is idle or not or whether it is transmitting or receiving, apparently. The monitors 134 and 136, cited in column 7 in the material cited by the Examiner, simply detects receive status. See column 16, line 59.

In view of these remarks, reconsideration of the rejection is respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted,

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IN THE DRAWINGS

Figure 5 has been amended as indicated in red in the attached annotated marked-up drawing. A replacement sheet of Figure 5 is also attached.

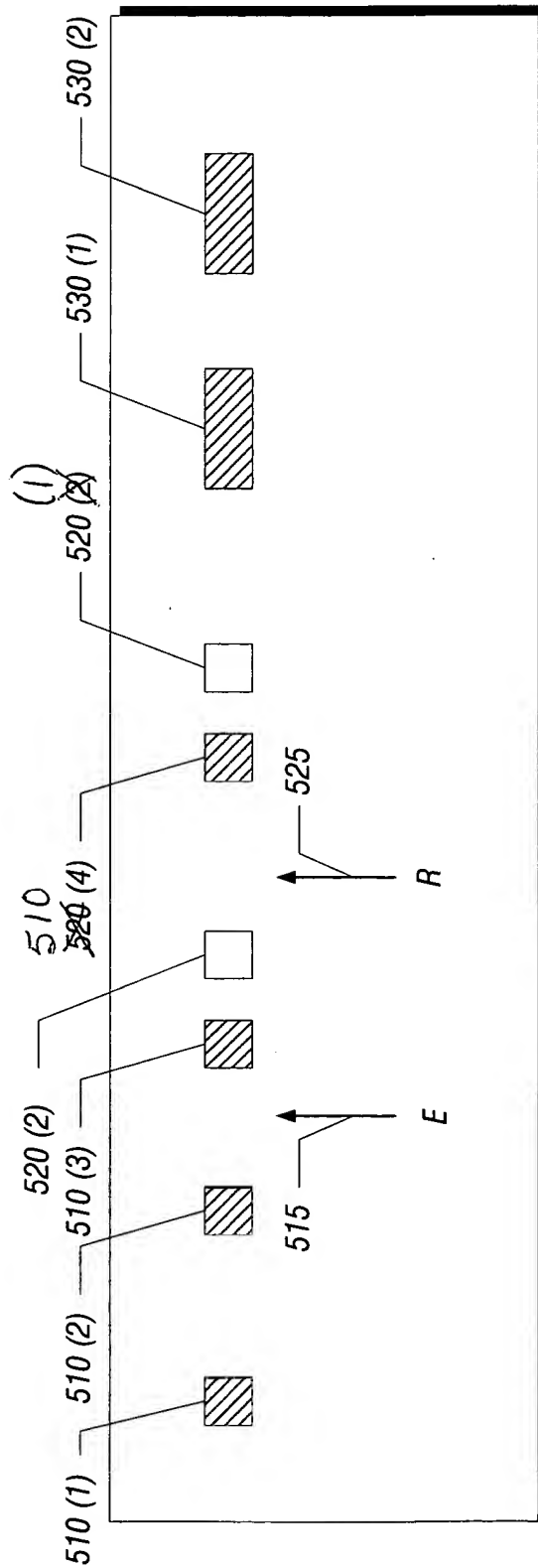


FIG. 5